

TO: FDA: Docket No. 97N-0074
FDA/Dockets Management Branch (HCFA - 305)
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

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FROM: Margie and Vince Mortimer
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We are writing and submitting this request today 1/27/00 to urge you to support United Poultry Concerns' petition to BAN FORCED MOLTING OF FOWL.

RATIONALE:

Feed withdrawal from turkeys and chickens "has long been shown to markedly increase contamination with both Salmonella and Campylobacter. The birds look for other food sources during feed withdrawal, eating litter, the contaminated material the birds are forced to live in, when they are hungry." Since hens being starved in their cages do not have access to litter, they are driven to "pluck and consume" cage mates' contaminated feathers (Avian Diseases 1995, 39:248).

Respectfully submitted,
Margie and Vince Mortimer



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